

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 290

Validation, under the Plenary Powers, of the generic names *Acantholyda* Costa, 1894 (Class Insecta, Order Hymenoptera) and *Acanthocnema* Becker, 1894 (Class Insecta, Order Diptera)



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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 290

A. The Officers of the Commission

Honorary Life President : Dr. Karl Jordan (*British Museum (Natural History), Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts., England*).

President : (Vacant).

Vice-President : Senhor Dr. Afranio do Amaral (*Sao Paulo, Brazil*).

Secretary : Mr. Francis Hemming (*London, England*).

B. The Members of the Commission

(*arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology*).

Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*S. Paulo, Brazil*) (*Vice-President*) (1st January 1944).

Professor J. R. DYMOND (*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*) (1st January 1944).

Professor J. Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (28th March 1944).

Professor Harold B. VOKES (*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.*) (23rd April 1944).

Dr. William Thomas CALMAN (*Coulsdon, Surrey, England*) (1st January 1947).

Professor Béla HANKÓ (*Békéscsaba, Hungary*) (1st January 1947).

Dr. Norman R. STOLL (*Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (1st January 1947).

Professor H. BOSCHMA (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (1st January 1947).

Senor Dr. Angel CABRERA (*Eva Peron, F.C.N.G.R., Argentina*) (27th July 1948).

Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (*Secretary*) (27th July 1948).

Dr. Joseph PEARSON (*Tasmanian Museum, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia*) (27th July 1948).

Dr. Henning LEMCHE (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*) (27th July 1948).

Professor Teiso ESAKI (*Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan*) (17th April 1950).

Professor Pierre BONNET (*Université de Toulouse, France*) (9th June 1950).

Mr. Norman Denbigh RILEY (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) (9th June 1950).

Professor Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (*Department of Systematic Zoology, Warsaw University, Warsaw, Poland*) (15th June 1950).

Professor Robert MERTENS (*Natur-Museum u. Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. M., Germany*) (5th July 1950).

Professor Erich Martin HERING (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany*) (5th July 1950).

OPINION 290

VALIDATION, UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS, OF THE
GENERIC NAMES "ACANTHOLYDA" COSTA, 1894
(CLASS INSECTA, ORDER HYMENOPTERA) AND
"ACANTHOCNEMA" BECKER, 1894 (CLASS
INSECTA, ORDER DIPTERA)

RULING : (1) Under the Plenary Powers the generic name *Acanthocnema* Costa (A.), 1859, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of both the Law of Priority and of the Law of Priority.

(2) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Names Nos. 713 and 714 respectively :—(a) *Acanthocnema* Becker, 1894 (gender : feminine) (type species, by original designation : *Cordylura nigrimana* Zetterstedt, 1846) (Class Insecta, Order Diptera) ; (b) *Acantholyda* Costa, 1894 (gender : feminine) (type species, by selection by Rohwer (1910) : *Tenthredo erythrocephala* Linnaeus, 1758) (Class Insecta, Order Hymenoptera).

(3) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* as Names Nos. 121 and 122 respectively ; (2) *erythrocephala* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Tenthredo erythrocephala* ; (b) *nigrimana* Zetterstedt, 1846, as published in the combination *Cordylura nigrimana*.

(4) The generic name *Acanthocnema* Costa (A.), 1859, as suppressed, under the Plenary Powers, under (1) above, is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* as Name No. 103.

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 7th November 1944 Dr. R. B. Benson (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) submitted a preliminary application for the suppression, under the Plenary Powers of the name *Acanthocnema* Costa (A.), 1859 (Class Insecta, Order Hymenoptera) for the purpose of validating the generic name *Acantholyda* Costa (A.), 1894. This subject formed ultimately—see paragraph 3 below—the subject of the following application by Dr. Benson:—

Proposed validation under the Plenary Powers of the names “*Acantholyda*” Costa, 1894 (Class Insecta, Order Hymenoptera) and “*Acanthocnema*” Becker, 1894 (Class Insecta, Order Diptera)

By R. B. BENSON, M.A.

(*Department of Entomology, British Museum (Natural History), London*)

In 1859 A. Costa in O. Costa, *Fauna Regno Napoli*, Imen. 3, Lididei : 2, described a genus *Acanthocnema* without any included species. In 1894 in *Prosp. Im. Ital.* : 232, he emended the name to *Acantholyda*. There is no possible doubt that *Acantholyda* was meant to replace *Acanthocnema* because there is only one group in the family LYDIDAE (now known as PAMPHILIIDAE) in which the key character used, the presence of a pre-apical fore-tibial spine, is present. The name *Acantholyda* Costa, 1894, has been in general use in the Order Hymenoptera now for about 30 years, and the group to which it is attached contains a number of forestry pests in the Old and New Worlds and occurs frequently in economic literature.

The name *Acanthocnema* Costa, 1859, on the other hand, has been entirely overlooked in the Order Hymenoptera and has never been used since its inception. Furthermore, Becker, 1894, *Berlin. ent. Z.* 39 : 136, gave the name *Acanthocnema* to a valid genus of CORDYLURIDAE (Order Diptera) and the name is at present in use in that Order.

The strict application of the *Règles* in this case would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity, since it would involve the transfer of the well-known name *Acanthocnema* from the Order Diptera to the Order Hymenoptera. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature are accordingly asked to use their Plenary Powers to suppress the name *Acanthocnema* Costa, 1859, and to validate the names *Acantholyda* Costa, 1894 (Order Hymenoptera) and *Acanthocnema* Becker, 1894 (Order Diptera). At the same time the International Commission are asked to place the above names, so validated, on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*. The gender of the name

Acantholyda Costa is feminine, as also is that of *Acanthocnema* Becker. The type species of the first of these genera is *Tenthredo erythrocephala* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 558, that species having been so selected by Rohwer in "The Genotypes of the Sawflies and Woodwasps, or the Super-Family Tenthredinoidea", published in 1911 (*Tech. Ser. U.S. Bur. Ent.* 20 : 73). The type species of *Acanthocnema* Becker, 1894, is *Cordylura nigrimana* Zetterstedt, 1846, *Dipt. Scand.* 5 : 2040, by original designation. The foregoing names are regarded as being the oldest available names for the species concerned and it is accordingly proposed that the trivial name *erythrocephala* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binominal combination *Tenthredo erythrocephala*, and the trivial name *nigrimana* Zetterstedt, 1846, as published in the binominal combination *Cordylura nigrimana*, should be placed on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*. Finally, on the suppression of the name *Acanthocnema* Costa, 1859, that name should be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*.

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. *Registration of the present application* : On receipt of Dr. Benson's preliminary communication of November 1944, the case of the name *Acantholyda* Costa was given the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 175.

3. *Postponement of the present application at Paris in 1948* : Owing to the limited amount of time available, it was not possible for the International Commission at its Session held in Paris in 1948 to consider all the cases then awaiting attention, and the present is one of the cases which was postponed on this account. In the period immediately following, it was necessary to devote the entire resources of the Commission to the preparation and publication of the Official Records of the Paris Session, and it was not until the autumn of 1950 that it was possible to resume preparations for the publication in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* of applications on individual nomenclatorial cases submitted to the Commission for decision. It was necessary slightly to revise the present application in the light of certain of the decisions of the Paris Congress, and this was done in the summer of 1950. Dr. Benson's application was finally settled on 16th August 1950.

4. *Publication of the present application* : The present application, as revised in the manner explained in the immediately preceding paragraph, was sent to the printer in September 1950 and was published on 20th April 1951 in Part 2 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Benson, 1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2 : 46).

5. *Issue of Public Notices* : Under the revised arrangements approved by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 20th April 1951 both in Part 2 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, the Part in which Dr. Benson's application was published, and also to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition, Notice was given to a number of entomological serial publications in Europe and America. The publication of these Notices elicited no objection to the action proposed.

6. *Support received from Dr. R. Lambert and Dr. O. Peck (Department of Agriculture, Ottawa)* : On 13th October 1951, Dr. R. Lambert and Dr. O. Peck (*Department of Agriculture, Division of Entomology, Ottawa, Canada*) addressed the following joint letter to the Commission in support of Dr. Benson's application (Lambert and Peck, 1952, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 6 : 170) :—

On page 46 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, Mr. R. B. Benson sets forward reasons for conserving the generic name *Acantholyda* Costa, and the name *Acanthocnema* Becker in Diptera. The proposed preservation of these names with its related details are approved by the undersigned upon the basis of Mr. Benson's reasoning. However, it should be noted that the pertinent Costa articles have not been available to us.

Your attention should be drawn to an error by Benson in his statement of the selection of the type species of *Acantholyda* Costa by Rohwer. While Rohwer did mention the name of the type species in 1911 (*Tech. Ser. U.S. Bur. Ent.* 20 : 73), as stated by Benson, yet this was antedated in his paper in 1910 (*Can. Ent.* 42 : 216). The latter publication was mailed on 4th June, according to a statement on page 220 of that volume.

III.—THE DECISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

7. *Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(52)7* : On 7th April 1952 a Voting Paper (V.P.(52)7) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, the proposal "relating to the names *Acantholyda* Costa, 1894, and *Acanthocnema* Becker, 1894, as set out at the foot of the present Voting Paper". The formula so set out embodied the proposals submitted by Dr. Benson, which had not been summarised at the conclusion of his application.

8. *The prescribed Voting Period* : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the prescribed Voting Period closed on 7th July 1952.

9. *Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(52)7* : The state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(52)7 at the close of the prescribed Voting Period was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following seventeen (17) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received)* :

Calman ; Hering ; do Amaral ; Dymond ; Riley ;
Cabrera ; Stoll ; Esaki ; Hankó ; Pearson ; Bonnet ;
Mertens ; Lemche ; Vokes ; Bradley ; Boschma ;
Hemming ;

(b) *Negative Votes* :

None ;

(c) *Voting Paper V.P.(52)7 was not returned by one (1) Commissioner* :

Jaczewski.

10. *Declaration of Result of Vote* : On 8th July 1952, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(52)7,

signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 9 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

11. On 1st March 1954 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(52)7.

12. The following are the original references for the names which appear in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

Acanthocnema Costa (A.), 1859, in Costa (O.), *Fauna Regno Napoli*, Imen. 3 Lididei : 2
Acantholyda Costa (O.), 1894, *Prosp. Im. Ital.* : 232
erythrocephala, *Tenthredo*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 558
nigrimana, *Cordylura*, Zetterstedt, 1846, *Dipt. Scand.* 5 : 2040

13. The following is the reference for the type selection for the genus *Acantholyda* Costa, 1894, specified in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—Rohwer, 1910, *Canad. Ent.* 42 : 216

14. At the time of the adoption of the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*, the expression prescribed for the second portion of the binomen which constitutes the scientific name of a species was the expression "trivial name" and the *Official List* reserved for recording such names was styled the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*, the word "trivial" appearing also in the title of the *Official Index* reserved for recording rejected and invalid names of this category. Under a decision taken by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, the expression "specific name" was substituted for the expression "trivial name" and corresponding changes were made in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of such

names (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 21). The changes in terminology so adopted have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

15. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

16. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Two Hundred and Ninety (290) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this First day of March, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Four.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING

